



# **Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting**

## **Monday, June 12, 2017 - 6:00 PM**

### **Council Chambers, 411 Sunset Drive, Manning, SC**

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#### **Those in attendance:**

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.  
Councilman Billy G. Richardson  
County Administrator, David W. Epperson

Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson  
Councilman AC English

**Absent:** Councilman Benton Blakely  
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

**Press in attendance:** Jim Hilley – The Item, Robert J. Baker – The Manning Times

#### **Others in attendance included:**

Lynden Anthony  
And other Clarendon County Residents

Joe Witt

Tiffany Myers

Linda Lemon

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments. Vice Chairman Frierson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

#### **I Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the agenda for June 12, 2017.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes**

On motion by Councilman English and seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on May 8, 2017 with corrections.

#### **III. Service Awards Recognition**

Prior to the business session of the Regular Council Meeting, Chairman Stewart, Administrator Epperson, and Linda Lemon, Director of Human Resources, presented seven employees with service awards. The awards were presented as listed:

- |                 |          |                   |          |                |          |
|-----------------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| • David Wells   | 5 Years  | Herman Floyd      | 10 Years | Charie Major   | 5 Years  |
| • William Stone | 10 Years | Gloriadean Garris | 15 Years | Foster Sumpter | 15 Years |
| • Louis Hilton  | 30 Years |                   |          |                |          |

Chairman Stewart and Administrator Epperson thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication.

#### **III. Board Appointment**

On motion by Councilman Richardson and seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint the following members to the Clarendon County Development Board to serve another 3-

year term: Mr. Gene Phillips, Mr. Linzy Washington, and Mr. G.G. Cutter

#### **IV. Inmate Housing Agreement**

Administrator Epperson presented Council with an Inmate Housing Agreement between Clarendon County Detention Center and the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Inmate Housing Agreement between Clarendon County Detention Center and the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

#### **V. Clarendon County Accommodations Tax Funds – “Tourism Fund”**

Mr. Lynden Anthony, Controller, presented Council with three requests:

- Request to authorize funding to the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce for its tourism promotion initiatives in the amount of \$59,500 for FY2018.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to authorize funding to the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce for its tourism promotion initiatives in the amount of \$59,000 for FY2018.

- Request to authorize funding in the amount of \$7,500 to Santee Cooper Country for out-of-area promotional activities

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to authorize funding in the amount of \$7,500 to Santee Cooper Country for out-of-area promotional activities.

- Request to authorize funding in the amount of \$38,000 under County control for the operation and maintenance of the I-95 Exit 119 Beautification Project.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to authorize funding in the amount of \$38,000 under County control for the operation and maintenance of the I-95 Exit 119 Beautification Project.

#### **Clarendon County Accommodations Tax Fund – “Promotion Fund”**

Ms. Tiffany Myers, Clarendon Chamber of Commerce Tourism Director, presented Council with an update relating to the Chamber of Commerce’s tourism promotional activities for the past year and she requested that funding be authorized in the amount of \$38,000 to the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce for its ongoing tourism promotion program.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to authorize funding in the amount of \$38,000 to the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce for its ongoing tourism promotion program.

#### **VI. ORDINANCE 2017-02**

Mr. Anthony, Chief Financial Officer, began his presentation by thanking the staff of the Finance department, our department managers, elected officials and members of the community that have assisted in producing the balanced budget. He continued by stating that he would like to recognize the efforts of Ms. Tammy Rodvansky and Ms. Betty Phillips, of the Finance Department.

He continued by stating that the budget for Third Reading contains the State allowed millage increase of 1.7% for County operations. We had to reduce anticipated funding from the Local Government Fund from second reading as a result of the compromise that came out of General Assembly's conference committee. While the General Assembly did increase its funding to the Local Government Fund from recurring sources, they deducted an equal amount that previously came from non-recurring sources. The net impact is a slight increase coming to the County next year. As part of the same compromise, they agreed to provide a 1% credit to be applied toward our retirement expense.

Mr. Anthony continued by recommending that Council adopt a Local Option Sales Tax credit back to our taxpayers in the amount of \$2,500,000. He stated that this budget contains a 2% Cost of Living Increase for our employees effective July 1 and a 1% increase in employers retirement expense. For Third reading, this budget removed the taxpayer support for Weldon Auditorium in the form of transfers from the General Funds or Accommodations Funds and he requested that the Hospitality Fee Fund reduces its level of operational support for Weldon Auditorium to \$50,000.

He further stated that the budget reflects the 1.7% mill increase for Fire Service operations. He requested that the Fire service utilize \$225,000 in available fund balance to be used toward the design and initial construction of a new Wyboo Sub-station. Mr. Anthony continued by requesting a \$2,000,000 Tax Anticipation Notes be approved in the event it becomes necessary.

Mr. Anthony concluded his presentation by requesting to borrow an amount not to exceed \$250,000 in the form of a five-year capital lease for the purchase and equipping of new patrol vehicles within the sheriff's department. He stated that the following expenses would be budgeted within the FY2018 Budget:

• General Fund	\$21,005,050
• General County Debt	\$ 943,939
• FE Dubose Vo Tec	\$ 225,000
• Fire Operating	\$ 3,147,372
• Fire Debt	\$ 105,163
• Admin Complex Debt Service	\$ 487,915
• Courthouse Debt Service	<u>\$ 262,050</u>
	\$ 26,176,489
• Water & Sewer (op ex)	\$ 529,692
• Weldon Auditorium (op ex)	\$ 104,495

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2017-02, An Ordinance to provide for a Levy of Taxes for County purposes of Clarendon County, SC., for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018, to direct the expenditures of said taxes and other funds for Clarendon County, and to provide for other matters related thereto including the Administrative Accountability Procedures to be followed during implementation of the Budget (Operating and Capital) for Clarendon County for the Fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018.

#### V. Consideration of School District budgetary requests:

##### 1. Clarendon School District One

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request made by Clarendon School District One for a 1.64% millage increase with no Tax Anticipation Note (TAN).

## 2. Clarendon School District Two

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request made by Clarendon School District Two, which was to remain at the same millage rate this Fiscal year as they did last Fiscal year with no Tax Anticipation Note.

## 3. Clarendon School District Three

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the request made by Clarendon School District Three for a 1.79% millage increase and a \$600,000 Tax Anticipation Note.

## 6. ORDINANCE 2017-03

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2017-03 - an Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon, South Carolina to Amend the County's Official Zoning Map Designation for Map Parcel 123-00-02-017-00; from General Commercial (GC) to Agriculture II (AGII) and providing an effective date.

## 7. ORDINANCE 2017-04

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the First Reading of Ordinance 2017-04 – An Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon, South Carolina to Amend Clarendon County Ordinance #2011-05 A/K/A the County's Unified Development Code.

## 8. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, CFO, began his report by stating the following:

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$1,677,837 and Revenue figures were not available as of May 31, 2017.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had Operating Revenue of \$692,282 and Operating Expenses of \$447,475 as of May 31, 2017. He stated that after depreciation, Bond interest expense, transfers, interest income, Grant Revenue, and USDA Phase 1B, the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility income of \$93,821.
- **Weldon Auditorium** total Revenue for the month ending May 31, 2017 was \$38,838, and total Expenses of \$206,475. He stated that after transfers from the General Fund, Hospitality Tax and Accommodations Fund in the amount of \$170,000, the Weldon Auditorium ended the eleven months ending May 31, 2017 with a deficit of \$36,435.
- **The C-Fund Program** for the month of May 2017 had a Cash Balance of \$1,611,445 of which \$771,268 has been committed to remaining local paving projects, State Construction Projects in Progress and State Proviso Funds. He concluded his report by stating that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$840,177 as of the end of May 2017.

## 9. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by giving Council an update on the following projects:

- **USDA Phase II** –Easement acquisition is underway. Informational meetings would be held on June 29 for individuals to view maps, execute water line easements, and ask questions.
- **E-Waste / shredding recycling day** – would be held on June 24 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Administration Building.
- **Congratulations** – Congratulations to East Clarendon Varsity Softball Team for winning the 2017 Class A state Championship.
- **Notices** – our annual employee lunch would be held on June 15 from 12 pm to 2 pm at the Clarendon County Fire Department.
- **County Holiday** – The County Offices would be closed on Tuesday, July 4 in observance of the July 4 Holiday.
- **Turbeville** – On May 31, The Town of Turbeville voted to allow Clarendon County to provide recreation services within the Town. We are currently working on a lease with The Town of Turbeville that would allow the County to utilize the Town's recreational facilities to provide these services. We are also going to work with Clarendon School District Three and the Citizens Bank on agreements to utilize their facilities for recreational activities and parking.

## 10. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report by stating that he visited the Phoenix Center on June 2 and he attended a SAF meeting at the Pee Dee Experimental Station on June 15.

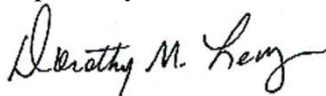
## 11. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Council Meeting.

The Council Meeting ended at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy  
Clerk to Clarendon County Council

